Commonwealth Shooting Championships

2887. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the National Small-bore Rifle Association of England, which hosted the Commonwealth Shooting Championships in Bisley recently, have accused the Indian participants of stealing from the accommodation in which they were lodged;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have inquired into the matter;

(d) if so, what is the factual position; and

(e) what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS (SHRI P. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (e) The Government had approved the proposal of National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) for participation of Indian Shooting team in Commonwealth Shooting Championship held at Bisley (UK) from August 22 to September 1, 2001. The Government has got a report from NRAI on this issue. According to the report of NRAI, the officials of National Small-bore Rifle Association (NSRA) of England have made such allegations against Indian team members just to cover up their lapses.

NRAI has already taken up this matter with the President, Commonwealth Shooting Federation with a request to look into this matter so that the same is not repeated in future. As NRAI has already taken up the matter at appropriate level, the Government does not propose to take any action in this regard.